

REMARKS

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 74 and 82 have been amended to change their dependencies to claim 59 and 76, respectively. These amendments do not introduce prohibited new matter.

Election/Restriction

In response to the election requirement in the Office Action dated September 10, 2007, Applicants respectfully elect, with traverse, iron oxide particles as the species for examination. Currently, claims 58-60, 63, 65, 67, 69, 74-77, and 79-82 read on the elected species.

Applicants respectfully point out that the invention is directed to modifying an agent to enhance its efficacy comprising associating it with one or more cationic components. Examples of cationic components include, but are not limited to, iron oxide particles and dextrans. These cationic components are well-known. Accordingly, the search for one cationic component will provide art that is pertinent to other cationic components. Accordingly, it would not be a serious burden on the Patent Office to search and examine all the cationic components in one application.

Moreover, it is Applicants' understanding that the Examiner intends to begin by searching the elected species and will continue searching until art is found or until a generic claim is found allowable. Applicants also point out that when a generic claim is found to be allowable, the withdrawn claims which depend from or include the limitations of the allowed claim must be rejoined and fully examined for patentability. MPEP 809.

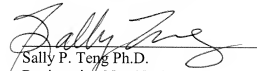
Conclusion

The foregoing amendments and remarks are being made to place the application in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments, reconsideration, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. A favorable action is awaited. Should the Examiner find that an interview would be helpful to further prosecution of this application, they are invited to telephone the undersigned at their convenience.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Dated: **November 8, 2007**
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Respectfully submitted,
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